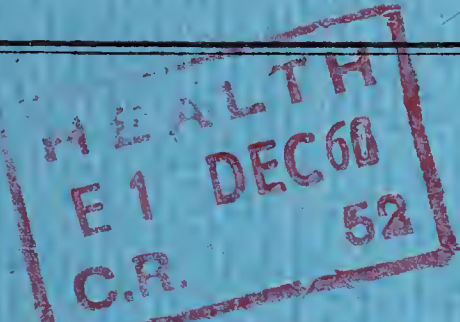


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**RUNCORN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

for the

**Year Ending 31st December, 1959**

C. W. & W. Stringer, 63, High Street, Runcorn.







URBAN DISTRICT AUTHORITY OF RUNCORN

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# ANNUAL REPORT

1959

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

---

## **Officials of the Public Health Department:**

- (1) Medical Officer of Health, Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts**
- (2) Divisional Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer (Runcorn Division).**
  - (a) Dr. E. N. HILLMAN GRAY, L.R.C.P.&S., L.M., D.P.H.  
(retired 31st March, 1959)
  - (b) Dr. JOHN L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(appointed 1st April, 1959)

## **Public Health Inspectors:**

**Chief:** Mr. ALBERT DUCKWORTH, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I., Meat and Foods, Smoke Inspector's Cert. R.S.H.

**Additional:** Mr. W. P. MOSS, Cert.R.S.I., Meat and Foods.

**Additional:** Mr. G. W. BATE, M.A.P.H.I.

## **Members of the Urban District Council of Runcorn**

### **Chairman of the Council:**

**COUNCILLOR C. J. HELSBY, J.P.**

### **Vice-Chairman of the Council:**

**COUNCILLOR J. HENDERSON, J.P.**

COUNCILLOR	T. CLARE
„	A. COOPER, J.P.
„	C. L. COHEN
„	H. GOODALL, (Chairman of the Public Health Committee)
„	G. R. GRAY
„	S. HOLT
„	J. S. HEWITSON
„	T. H. LEATHER
„	T. J. LLOYD
„	A. W. J. LOVELL
„	D. McCULLOCH, D.C.M.
„	C. C. POSNETT
„	J. G. POTTS
„	Miss M. J. PREECE, B.A., C.C.
„	J. REDICAN
„	H. SHACKLADY
„	T. B. SHALLCROSS
„	J. TILDSLEY, J.P.
„	R. WILLIAMSON

### **Officers:**

**Solicitor Clerk of the Council: Mr. T. J. LEWIS**

**Engineer and Surveyor: Mr. H. A. HUMPHERY, M.I.Mun.E.**

**Treasurer: Mr. C. NORMAN GREEN**

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Divisional Medical Officer of Health (Runcorn Division).



## INTRODUCTION

To: The Chairman and members of the  
Urban District Council of Runcorn.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentleman,

I have the honour to submit the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report for 1959. During the first three months of the year Dr. E. N. Hillman Gray was Medical Officer of Health.

The Infant Mortality rate is 36.61 compared with the national figure of 22. Since no specific factors were discovered on investigation, the important task seems to be to teach mothers to make full use of the preventive services of the Local Health Authority in ante-natal and child care, and of the curative services available through their family doctors. The health visitor is the important link in this field of health teaching, with her personal contact in the homes she visits.

The clearance of slum property and the building of new houses creates a healthy environment which in turn leads to a reduction in infant death.

During the year there were 15 deaths from lung cancer—14 males and 1 female. This disease was responsible for 54 deaths daily in 1958 throughout the country. It is a serious menace to health. Prevention is simple—stop smoking.

Bronchitis accounted for 16 deaths (13 males and 3 females). Of great importance amongst the causes is Atmospheric Pollution. Prevention can therefore be directed against Atmospheric Pollution, particularly visible smoke of which far more than half comes from domestic coal fires. Present progress towards smoke control is far too slow, and the Administrative procedure for setting up Smoke Control areas is too cumbersome. But a start is being made, though the pace needs to be accelerated. I am sure that the reduction of smoke in Runcorn will be a Public Health achievement of the greatest importance.

Coronary thrombosis was responsible for 44 deaths (32 males and 12 females). Amongst this number were 5 men under 55 years of age. From the figures there was no evidence that any particular social class or occupation was more at risk than others. The cause of this disease remains unknown, and consequently advice on prevention cannot yet be given on a factual basis.

Among Infectious Diseases the decline in mortality from tuberculosis continues.

In conclusion I wish to thank all the members of the Public Health Staff for their services of which this report is a record. The other departments of the Council's Staff have been most helpful throughout the year.

Yours obediently,

J. L. PATTERSON,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
"Pool Dale",  
Heath Road,  
Runcorn.  
Telephone: Runcorn 2261.



## SECTION A—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Area of Runcorn Urban District in Acres ... ..	3,116
Population at Census, 1951 ... ..	23,933
Registrar-General's Estimates of Population at 30th June, 1959 ... ..	26,020
Density of population (i.e. No. of persons per acre) ...	8.35
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1959, according to rate book) ... ..	8,312
Rateable value at 31st December, 1959 ... ..	£418,792
Rateable value at 31st December, 1958 ... ..	£290,191
Sum represented by 1d. rate (approx.) 31st December, 1959 ... ..	£1,712

### Vital Statistics

	Total	Male	Female
LIVE BIRTHS: ... ..	437	217	220
Rate per 1000 population: ...	16.80		
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS per cent of total live births ... ..	2.3		
STILL BIRTHS: ... ..	15	5	10
Rate per 1000 total live and still births: ...	33.2		
TOTAL LIVE and STILL BIRTHS: ...	452	222	230
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year): 16		10	6

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES:

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births .....	36.61
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births ...	37.47
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births) .....	25.17
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births) .....	20.59
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)...	53.10
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) Number of deaths	1.00
Rate per 1000 total live and still births .....	2.20
	Total            Male    Female
DEATHS:            ...            ...            ...            ...	251            140            111
Death Rate per 1000 Population:	9.65

## INFANT DEATHS (under 1 year) 1959

Certified Causes of Death	Age at Death									Total
	Under 24 hours	Days				Months				
		1— 7	8— 14	15— 21	22— 28	1— 3	3— 6	6— 9	9— 12	
Prematurity ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Acute Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations ...	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	5
Spina Bifida ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Heart Diseases ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Respiratory Failure	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ... ..	6	3	—	1	1	2	1	—	2	16

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

The table of infant deaths shows that 16 children died before reaching the age of 1 year, producing an infant mortality rate of 36.61 compared with 17.6 in the previous year.

## Vital Statistics

<i>Year</i>	<i>Per 1,000 Population</i>		<i>Per 1,000 Live Births</i>	<i>Per 1,000 Totcl Live and Still Births</i>
	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Live Birth Rate</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality Rate</i>	<i>Still Birth Rate</i>
1949	11.23	17.29	51.09	26.06
1950	10.79	10.5	23.3	29.6
1951	13.34	16.07	31.25	27.85
1952	11.29	15.79	39.57	23.19
1953	9.07	17.57	21.02	20.59
1954	10.29	16.83	37.47	27.97
1955	9.74	17.6	45.3	13.4
1956	11.1	18.2	36.6	25.3
1957	9.19	17.8	21.78	23.4
1958	9.5	17.5	17.6	19.5
1959	9.65	16.80	36.61	33.2

## SECTION B.

### General Provisions of Health Services in the Area

#### 1. Public Health Officers

The names, qualifications, of these are given at the beginning of the Report.

#### 2. Facilities

##### (a) Laboratory Facilities

The Biological Institute of Messrs. Evans Medical Supplies, Ltd., is established in Runcorn—where, query Anthrax can be examined and necessary treatment given as required prior to any Hospital treatment.

The Chester and District Hospital Management Committee have informed all general practitioners that they would be responsible for the supply of diphtheria antitoxin (free)—in emergency at the Runcorn Memorial Hospital (Matron). In addition, it can be obtained (in emergency) from any infectious disease hospital, e.g., Warrington and Davenham.

Practitioners may, if they wish, obtain a small stock from a hospital in anticipation of requirements rather than wait until they need it for a particular case.



Stock held by hospitals or practitioners should be returned three months before expiry date for exchange to the source of supply.

**In few diseases is prompt treatment as necessary as in diphtheria.**

**N.B.—**Antitoxin should be given in all suspicious cases at once, **in the home or in the hospital. SWABBING IS ONLY AN AID TO DIAGNOSIS.**

Swabs, &c., are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Hoole Lane, Chester and the Public Health Laboratory, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, in addition as required, the laboratories at Chester and Warrington (free of charge).

**N.B.—**This applies to all examinations carried out in the interests of Public Health. The facilities available (free of charge) might be made more use of.

Milk specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Chester, they may be sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

## SECTION C

### Sanitary Circumstances

1. (i) WATER. The water supply consists of soft water from Lake Vyrnwy which in periods of drought is augmented by a supply of Runcorn well water.

Frequent tests are made of the water by the Council, and during the year 24 tests of Vyrnwy and 5 mixed water were made, and 12 tests of Well water (which is under constant supervision).

The Report of the Analyst is:— “That the water generally is free from organic pollution and is suitable for drinking purposes.”

(ii) Ministry of Health Circular 42/51 requires the following information regarding water supplies in the area:—

(i) Whether the water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory:—

(a) In quality	...	...	...	...	Yes
(b) In quantity	...	...	...	...	Yes

(ii) Where there is a piped supply whether bacteriological examinations were made of (i) the raw water and (ii) where treatment is installed, of water going into supply; if so

(a) How many? ... Yes (i) 12; (ii) 29;

(b) The results obtained. Number of coliform organisms per 100 mls. Satisfactory

(c) The results of any chemical analysis Satisfactory

- (iii) Where the Waters are liable to have plumbo solvent action the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and result of analyses:—

Report of Analyst does not indicate plumbo solvent action in any of the testings made.

- (iv) Action in respect of any form of contamination:—

None.

- (v) Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains:—

(a) Direct to the houses ... 8312

(b) By means of stand pipes ... Nil

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE: Work commenced on the construction of an intercepting sewer from Latham Avenue to Norman Road Bridge, Heath Road, being part of the future sewerage proposals to drain approximately 90 acres of the remaining unsewered areas of the town.

(3) PUBLIC CLEANSING: A weekly collection of house refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole of the district and disposal is by controlled tipping in a disused quarry. the refuse is tipped in layers and covered each day with soil available on the site; a mechanical shovel is used for the purpose.

In order to prevent nuisance from insects, the refuse tip is sprayed from time to time with a reliable insecticide.

(4) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA:

Inspections made for all purposes ... 4883

Nuisances dealt with ... 240

Notices served (Informal) ... 138

**Public Health Act, 1936—Record of Nuisances, 1959**

Number of Complaints in respect of dwellings ... 194

Number of Preliminary Notices served ... 138

Number of Preliminary Notices complied with without resort to service of Statutory Notices ... 80

Number of Statutory Notices served as authorised by Council ... 82

Number of Statutory Notices complied with ... 56

Number of Housing Inspections ... 470

## **Rent Act, 1957—Record of Certificates of Disrepair, 1959**

(i)	Number of Applications for Certificates	...	6
(ii)	Number of decisions to issue Certificates		
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	2
	(b) in respect of all defects	... ..	4
(iii)	Number of undertakings given by landlords	...	5
(iv)	Number of Certificates issued	... ..	3
(v)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	1
	(including 2 pending from 1958)		



## Summary of Visits and Inspections

### Food Premises:

Bakehouses	...	...	...	28
Cafes, Canteens, Restaurants	...	...	...	15
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	62
Food Shops	...	...	...	223
Food Vehicles	...	...	...	17
Public Markets	...	...	...	6
Public Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	8
School Canteens	...	...	...	17

### Other Visits:

Atmospheric Pollution—Smoke				
Nuisance	...	...	...	84
Smoke Control Areas	...	...	...	177
Canal Boats	...	...	...	21
Complaints	...	...	...	251
Drainage	...	...	...	312
Disinfections and Disinfestations	...	...	...	79
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	53
Hairdressers	...	...	...	20
House Inspections and Enquiries	...	...	...	630
Infectious Disease Enquiries	...	...	...	74
Interviews	...	...	...	322
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	475
Music Halls and Theatres	...	...	...	26
Nuisance Abatement	...	...	...	665
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	34
Piggeries	...	...	...	16
Public Baths	...	...	...	18
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	148
Shops (other than Food)	...	...	...	34
Refuse Removal and Disposal	...	...	...	589
Rodent Control	...	...	...	197
Tents, Vans, Sheds	...	...	...	20

### Sampling:

Water (Domestic and Bacteriological)	...	...	...	41
Water (Baths)	...	...	...	8
Milk	...	...	...	119
Ice Cream and Lollies	...	...	...	44
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	48
Total	...	...	...	4883

## (5) Shops

The various classes of shops in the district of the Local Authority have from time to time been visited.

The provisions of the Shops Act relating to closing hours and the Employment of Young Persons are generally observed, also the provisions of the Act in relation to lighting, heating and ventilation.

## (6) Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement

For the purposes of recording solid matter and sulphur present in the atmosphere, four stations are now in operation consisting of deposit gauges and lead peroxide apparatus. The latter gauges and apparatus are situated at:—

Beacon Hill Reservoir.

Highfield Tannery

Weston House

Town Hall Grounds

The residue is collected on the 1st of the month or as near as possible for analytical examination.

### Measurements of Deposited Matter with the Deposit Gauge

The amount of total solids in tons per square mile, and the average rainfall during the year 1959 was as stated below:

Month			Beacon Hill Reservoir	Weston House	Highfield Tannery	Town Hall	Average Rainfall inches
January	...	...	12.89	25.83	17.10	14.27	2.24
February	...	...	13.42	6.89	10.91	4.67	0.29
March	...	...	8.60	11.64	8.84	6.54	0.98
April	...	..	18.97	29.54	21.81	25.33	2.81
May	...	...	14.30	19.81	22.84	12.75	2.39
June	...	...	15.91	38.10	21.17	16.18	2.34
July	...	..	No reading	34.63	30.30	17.82	3.76
August	...	...	11.02	12.37	15.89	8.63	0.45
September	...	...	7.73	17.04	12.93	10.74	0.10
October	...	...	21.61	31.62	27.91	15.91	2.30
November	...	...	16.19	25.52	23.85	12.82	3.93
December	...	...	12.80	15.88	18.22	15.37	4.05
Monthly Average		...	13.95	22.40	19.31	13.42	2.14

Annual Rainfall: 25.64 inches.

The measurement in milligrams of SO<sub>2</sub> per day per 100 square centimetres of lead peroxide during the year 1959 was as follows:

Measurements of Sulphur Dioxide with Lead Peroxide Apparatus

Month			Beacon Hill Reservoir	Weston House	Highfield Tannery	Town Hall
January	...	...	2.91	2.81	2.85	2.80
February	...	...	2.71	2.64	2.65	1.73
March	...	...	2.28	1.19	2.71	1.18
April	...	...	2.67	2.70	2.70	2.84
May	...	...	2.16	2.10	2.21	1.12
June	...	...	1.41	2.76	1.89	1.17
July	...	...	1.70	2.49	1.60	0.97
August	...	...	2.10	1.92	1.67	0.84
September	...	...	2.08	1.44	1.75	0.86
October	...	...	2.64	2.64	2.58	1.16
November	...	...	2.18	1.64	2.67	1.34
December	...	...	2.84	2.42	2.68	1.29
Monthly Average			2.30	2.23	2.33	1.44

The atmospheric pollution stations have now been operating since July, 1955, and as recommended by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Council it is now possible to reasonably assess the degree of pollution in the area.

To try and assess the degree of pollution over a lesser period would not allow for such variation in weather conditions as rainfall and change of wind direction, which can alter considerably the reading of the gauges.

The average monthly readings of solid matter expressed in tons per square mile since 1955 are set out below:—

Average Monthly Solid Matter in Tons per Sq. Mile

	Year				
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Monthly Average ...	21.08	19.79	30.13	24.64	17.56
Total Annual Deposit (tons per sq. mile) ...	—	237.44	361.6	295.5	210.69



The average monthly reading for measurement of sulphur dioxide since 1955 are set out below:—

### **Measurement of Sulphur Dioxide with Lead Peroxide Appartus**

(Sulphur m.g. of SO/3 day 100 sq. cm.lead)

<i>Year</i>				
1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
2 10	2.22	2.34	2 04	2.08

### **Clean Air Act, 1956 (Industrial Provisions)**

Observations have been taken regularly of all chimneys in the area, and notices served where necessary. The most useful results have been obtained where firms have made use of the services of the N.I.F.E.S. Advisory Service who advise on the best methods of firing boilers and carrying out improvements to plant to increase efficiency and reduce smoke.

The work of building a 350ft. high chimney and provision of electrostatic precipitator to a power station was completed towards the end of the year and put into operation. This was the most positive step taken during the year to obviate a source of dust nuisance of many years' standing.

### **Clean Air Act, 1956—Smoke Control Areas**

Approval in principle was given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the Council's No. 1 Smoke Control Order on the Grange Neighbourhood Unit. The area when in operation would comprise 1,388 premises, of which approximately 1,300 are Council-owned dwellings, fitted with approved appliances requiring little conversion.

Detailed surveys were carried out at the privately owned dwellings, and it is hoped that the area will become operative during 1960.

In accordance with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 5/59 dated 26th January, 1959, the Council approved a five year programme for the setting up of Smoke Control Areas in the town. This programme envisaged the setting up of five smoke control areas by 1963, totalling approximately 3,060 premises, and a target date of 1973 for making the whole of the Urban area smoke free.

## (7) Public Swimming Baths

The Urban District Council maintains a Public Swimming Bath which is supplied with water from the Town's mains and passed through a filtration plant charged with chlorine. It is tested for its purity and chlorine content periodically during the season, and its physical characteristics are satisfactory. Daily checks are made for chlorine content by the Baths Superintendent.

Eight chemical and eight bacteriological samples of Bath's water were tested and the Analyst reported on the fluctuations of the composition of the water at various times, e.g. when the load was heavier and the temperature consequently higher. Attention was immediately given to any adverse report and the process of chlorination adjusted as required.

## (8) Eradication of Vermin

The following particulars are given of action taken for the eradication of vermin:—

	<i>Infested and Disinfested</i>		
	<i>No. of Council houses</i>	<i>No. of other houses</i>	<i>No. of business premises</i>
Bed Bugs ... ..	3	7	—
Cockroaches ... ..	9	3	2
Ants ... ..	14	1	1
Silverfish ... ..	7	1	—
Woodworm ... ..	2	—	—
Total ... ..	35	12	3

## (9) Schools

Periodic inspections were made of the sanitary accommodation at schools during 1959. Whilst certain improvements have been made, others are necessary and are receiving consideration by School Management Committees. The County Medical Officer of Health has reported on Schools to the Chief Education Officer.

## (10) Rodent Control

During the year the administration of the "Prevention of Damage by Pests Act," 1949 has led to many visits and treatments of dwelling and business premises being carried out. The number of premises inspected was 315.

Treatment of infestation at private dwellings is carried out free of charge, but a charge is made for rodent control work in connection with trade premises and land.

During the year 1959 disinfestations were dealt with at 287 premises; 1,305 visits in all were made; 1,121 rats and 308 mice were accounted for.

The disinfestations dealt with consisted of:—  
Business premises, 94; Private Dwellings, 165; Council Premises, 28.

Sewer treatment was carried out in the months of March, July and October with satisfactory results.

A 10% test of all sewers, and a testing of all manholes which are known to be subject to rodent infestation are given special attention.



## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors:

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	12	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	74	31	2	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) .. ..	13	7	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>

### CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage, floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) insufficient .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ..	4	3	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	6	4	—	3	—

Number on Outworkers' Lists: 2.

## SECTION D

### (1) HOUSING

Number of inhabited houses in Urban District 31st December, 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	8312
Density of houses (number of houses per acre)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.6
Number of houses (new) erected during 1959:—							
(a) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
(b) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Number of houses owned by Local Authority:—							
Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	2135
Prefab.	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
General Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
						—————	2226

### Slum Clearance Programme—Housing Act, 1955

Considerable progress has been made with the re-housing of families and demolition of properties included in the Council's 5 year programme of Unfit Houses.

Twenty-seven families, comprising 79 persons, have been re-housed during the year. Sixty-seven houses have been demolished and 4 closed.

During the year 1959, Orders have been made in respect of 159 Unfit Houses, of which 143 were awaiting confirmation by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government at the end of the year.

The houses have been dealt with in the following manner:—

(i) By Compulsory Purchase Order	...	...	...	...	70
(ii) By Clearance Orders	...	...	...	...	73
(iii) Individual Unfit Houses	...	...	...	...	16

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CANAL BOAT INSPECTOR

The number of Canal Boats passing through the Urban District of Runcorn during the year 1959 has shown a big reduction.

Those visited and inspected were mainly narrow boats making weekly visits. Several firms in the area which had their coal transported by canal to the works now use road transport, and this traffic is practically negligible.

Only 21 Canal Boats were inspected during the year, and were generally well kept, and which with the exception of the under-mentioned contraventions were found in good condition:—

Defective chimney flue to range	...	...	2
Certificate of Registration	...	...	3
Leaking cabin side	...	...	1
Leaking cabin top	...	...	1
Total	...	...	7

Notices were served on the persons concerned and where the contraventions have not already been rectified, the more recent ones are receiving attention.

The population of the 21 Canal Boats referred to consists of: Male, 15; Female, 13; Children, 10.

Age:	Babies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
No.	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	2	10

There were no cases of overcrowding discovered due to the fact that families now work two or more boats together, which relieves the overcrowding.

No cases of infectious disease were reported on a Canal Boat during the year.

## SECTION E

### Inspection and Supervision of Food

#### (a) (i) Milk Supply

There are two dairy farms in the area of the Urban District, all of which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and 67 retailers of milk on the register of the Local Authority.

One dairy in the area is licensed for the Pasteurisation of milk by the High Temperature Short Time System.

#### (ii) Milk Sampling

During the year under review 119 samples of milk were submitted for analytical report to the Public Health Laboratory at Birkenhead.



Four samples of milk delivered to the schools in the area were tested. Of the remaining 115 samples, 5 failed the Methylene Blue test and 4 failed the Turbidity test. Suitable action was taken in these cases, and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

The following table indicated the Reports of the Analyst of samples during the year 1959:—

**SAMPLING FOR CLEANLINESS AND EFFICIENCY OF  
HEAT TREATMENT**

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Appropriate Tests</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	
			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Pasteurised	35	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	35 35	— —
Sterilised	39	Turbidity	35	4
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	34	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	34 33	— 1
Tuberculin Tested	11	Methylene Blue Biological	7 6	4 —

**(b) Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949**

**Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)  
Regulations, 1949**

The number of licences granted under the above Regulations were 103, viz:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	Retailer's Licence	...	...	10
			Supplementary Licence	...		3
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	Retailer's Licence	..	...	22
			Supplementary Licence	...		3
Sterilised Milk	...	...	Retailer's Licence	...	...	63
			Supplementary Licence	...		2

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955: (Food Premises in the Area)

Type	No. in area	No. registered under Sect. 16 F&D Act, 1955
Grocery and General Stores	86	—
Greengrocery	20	—
Butchers	21	15
Fish and Chips	16	16
Wet Fish	9	—
Cooked Meats	4	4
Cafes, Canteens	18	—
Licensed premises	35	—
Bakers & Confectioners	18	—
Sweets	28	—
Total	255	35

376 visits and inspections have been made to food premises, and 53 notices under Food Hygiene Regulations served in respect of re-decoration of premises, provision of hand-washing facilities and protection of open food.

No prosecutions were instituted under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

### (b) Ice-cream Samples

Twenty-two samples of ice-cream and twenty-two samples of ice-lollies were submitted to the Analyst for report, and the table herewith gives the results of the same:—

Type of Sample	No. of Samples	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Ice-cream	22	20	2	—	—
Ice-lollies	22	22	—	—	—

There are 92 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream.

### (c) Unsound Food

Under the "Unsound Food Provisions" the undermentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for consumption on shop premises and were condemned:—

Cheese	... ..	8 lbs.
Cream (tinned)	... ..	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
Fish (tinned)	... ..	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Frozen Egg (tinned)	... ..	49 lbs.
Fruit (tinned)	... ..	68 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Fruit	... ..	28 lbs.
Meat (tinned)	... ..	552 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Meat (Home killed)	... ..	148 lbs.
Milk (tinned)	... ..	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ pints
Vegetables (tinned)	... ..	13 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

### (2) (a) Slaughterhouse

The Council-owned Slaughterhouse is no longer tenanted, and butchers are supplied with meat mainly from Stanley Market, Liverpool, and a small quantity brought into the area from small slaughterhouses in the surrounding areas where it is closely inspected. These arrangements fully cover the slaughtering need of the area.

### (3) Adulteration, etc.—Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his department in the Runcorn Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act during the year 1959:—



**Samples taken for analysis during the year ended  
31st December, 1959**

<i>Nature of Sample</i>					<i>Number obtained</i>	<i>Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality</i>
Baking Powder	...	...	...	...	1	
Beef Suet (Shredded)	...	...	...	...	1	
Brandy	...	...	...	...	1	
Butter	...	...	...	...	1	
Cheese (2)	...	...	...	...	—	
Cheese (Cheshire) (2)	...	...	...	...	4	
Coffee	...	...	...	...	1	
Coffee and Chicory Essence	...	...	...	...	2	
Cod Liver Oil and Malt Extract etc.	...	...	...	...	1	
Cream	...	...	...	...	1	
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	1	
Flour (Self Raising)	...	...	...	...	1	
Gelatine	...	...	...	...	1	
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	1	
Jam (Apricot)	...	...	...	...	2	1
Jellies (Table)	...	...	...	...	1	
Lard	...	...	...	...	1	
Lobster Spread	...	...	...	...	1	
Margarine	...	...	...	...	2	
Milk (37)	...	...	...	...		1
Milk (Channel Islands) (3)	...	...	...	...	40	
Milk, Condensed	...	...	...	...	1	
Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	1	
Mustard	...	...	...	...	1	
Olive Oil	...	...	...	...	1	
Orange Drink	...	...	...	...	1	
Rum	...	...	...	...	1	
Saccharin Tablets	...	...	...	...	1	
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	1	
Salmon Spread	...	...	...	...	1	
Tea	...	...	...	...	1	
Tomato Sauce	...	...	...	...	1	
Whisky	...	...	...	...	1	
					76	2

**Particulars of Samples not up to Standard**

1372	Apricot Jam	Deficient in fruit 25%	Cautioned
1488	Milk	1.1% deficient in N.F.S Sub-standard but genuine.	No action

During the year there were 50 deaths recorded from cancer as compared with 51 in 1958.

### Details of Cancer deaths over the Past Five Years.

Year	Site	1-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75 and over	Rate per 1,000 population	Total all ages	
								M	F
1955	Stomach	—	—	5	2	4	2.07	6	5
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	5	2	3		11	—
	Other Sites	—	1	10	13	6		8	22
1956	Stomach	—	1	2	7	2	2.23	4	8
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	2	3	8	2		14	1
	Other Sites	—	—	12	12	6		17	13
1957	Stomach	—	1	1	4	—	1.67	2	4
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	2	10	3	—		13	2
	Other Sites	—	—	10	4	8		11	11
1958	Stomach	—	—	2	3	2	1.97	4	3
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	2	6	4	1		11	2
	Other Sites	—	1	11	10	9		14	17
1959	Stomach	—	—	3	5	7	1.92	7	8
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	3	3	1		8	—
	Other Sites	1	5	8	7	6		11	16

### Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases. 1959. (corrected Notifications)

Disease	Age Groups of Cases Notified									Total
	Un- der 1	1- 2	3- 4	5- 9	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64	65 and over	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	2	14	26	6	2	—	—	—	50
Whooping Cough ... ..	4	3	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	15
Measles ... ..	3	16	20	10	1	—	—	—	—	50
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS ...	7	21	36	41	8	3	1	—	1	118

Tuberculosis notifications are given in a separate section of the report.

During the year there was no unusual notification of infectious disease.

# Ten Years' Table of Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis

## (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Year	Cases Notified			Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1950	7	9	16	8	—	8
1951	15	8	23	3	1	4
1952	6	2	8	5	—	5
1953	10	8	18	6	1	7
1954	4	1	5	3	—	3
1955	11	4	15	—	1	1
1956	3	1	4	3	1	4
1957	3	5	8	—	—	—
1958	5	—	5	1	1	2
1959	7	3	10	1	—	1

# Ten Years' Table of Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis

## (b) Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Year	Cases Notified			Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1950	1	—	1	1	—	1
1951	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	1	—	1	2	—	2
1953	1	—	1	—	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	—	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—
1959	—	1	1	—	—	—



# Runcorn Urban District

## TOTAL DEATHS 1959

Causes of Death				Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	7	8
11.	Malignant neoplasms, lung, bronchus	...	...	8	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	6
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	—
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms...	...	...	11	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	1	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	—	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	8	21
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	32	12
18.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	2	1
20.	Other heart disease...	...	...	15	18
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	11	8
22.	Influenza	...	...	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	7	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	13	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	1	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	...	...	—	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	2	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	3	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	1
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	4	1
33.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	6	10
34.	All other Accidents	...	...	5	3
35.	Suicide	...	...	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—
Total				140	111

Comparability Factors:

Births 0.98 : Deaths 1.27

**Annex attached to report:**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE  
URBAN DISTRICT OF RUNCORN IN THE COUNTY  
OF CHESHIRE**

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories  
Act, 1937.

# PART 1 OF THE ACT

## 1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspec- tions</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	12	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	74	31	2	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	13	7	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	104	50	2	—

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage, floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) insufficient .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ..	4	3	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	6	4	—	3	—



# PART VIII OF THE ACT

## Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work  (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	prose- cutions (7)
Wearing ) Making etc. apparel ) Cleaning and ) Washing	2	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel cables and chains	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc. of buttons etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	—	—	—	—



**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR  
1959**

**By the**

**DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

Presented to the  
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee  
15th March, 1960



# MEMBERS OF THE RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

## Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. W. KIRKHAM

## Deputy Chairman:

COUNCILLOR T. H. LEATHER

## Representatives of Local Health Authority:

County Alderman G. ASTBURY, Chairman, County Health Committee  
 County Councillor F. MCBIRNIE, Vice Chairman, County Health Committee  
 Alderman W. GITTINS,  
 County Councillor H. MANN  
     "          "      A. E. MOORS  
     "          "      R. E. PAYTON  
     "          "      Miss M. J. PREECE

## Runcorn Rural District Council Representatives:

Councillor Mrs. J. A. GLOVER	Councillor Mrs. E. STANSFIELD
"      J. HUNT	"      Mrs. I. J. WALLIS
"      H. JACKSON	"      Miss M. WHITLOW
"      A. JONES	"      J. W. WOODS

## Runcorn Urban District Council Representatives:

Councillor A. COOPER	Councillor H. SHACKLADY
"      H. GOODALL	"      T. B. SHALLCROSS
"      T. J. LLOYD	"      R. WILLIAMSON

## Co-opted Members:

Dr. E. R. CARTER, Local Medical Committee for the County Palatine of Chester.  
 Miss T. E. DUDLEY, Cheshire County Nursing Association.  
 Councillor J. TILDSLEY, Runcorn Divisional Executive for Education.  
 Councillor W. H. STUBBS, Chester & District Hospital Management Committee.  
 Mrs. C. EVANS  
 Mrs. E. A. ROYLE  
 Mr. J. D. WHITLEY  
 Mrs. J. C. TURNER

## Officers:

**Clerk to the Committee:** Mr. T. J. Lewis

**Divisional Medical Officer:** To 31.3.59. E. N. Hillman Gray, L.R.C.P. & S:  
   L.M., D.P.H.,  
   From 1.4.59 J. L. Patterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1959**

**INTRODUCTION**

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this my Annual Report dealing with those portions of the Sections of Part III of the National Health Act 1946, for which this Committee is responsible.

As in previous years the report is sub-divided into the various sections of the Act and gives details of the work carried out during the year.

Attention is drawn to the large number of infants attending the Grappenhall Welfare Centre. It is unfortunate that the staff have to attempt to teach health in such poor surroundings. It is to be hoped that the new Welfare Centre will be available shortly in this rapidly growing area.

The ambulance service shows an increase in the number of patients carried and in the mileage.

Propaganda to maintain public interest in vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus was continued with effective results, there being a further increase this year in the number of children protected.

The response to poliomyelitis vaccination was very satisfactory. Since the commencement of the scheme, 14,519 persons in the Division have been vaccinated. During the year, 9,866 persons, mostly children, were given their third injection.

The demand for domestic help continued to increase, especially for aged people. Each case was carefully reviewed from time to time to see if economies were possible. With the shortage of old people's beds in hospitals and welfare homes, this service is likely to continue to increase.

This is my first report to the Committee since my appointment, and I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Divisional Health Committee for their support and help to me on all occasions.

The co-operation and assistance of the County Medical Officer and his staff, the Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee, the staff in my Divisional Health Office and the nursing staff in the Division, has been greatly appreciated.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. L. PATTERSON.

Divisional Health Office,  
36 Halton Road,  
RUNCORN.

## SECTION 22

### CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

There are seven Child Welfare Centres in the Division, three of which are held in County owned premises (Runcorn, Frodsham and Stockton Heath) and four of which are held in premises rented by the County Council for the actual Sessions (Grappenhall, Helsby, Kingsley and Weston Point).

The Infant Welfare Centres are as follows:—

<b>Frodsham</b>	Welfare Centre, The Rock	Alternate Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
<b>Grappenhall</b>	Methodist Sunday School	Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
<b>Helsby</b>	British Insulated Callenders' Cables Works Recreation Room	Alternate Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
<b>Kingsley</b>	Hurst Chapel  Halton Road	Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2 p.m. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
<b>Runcorn</b>	Welfare Centre	Wednesdays
<b>Stockton Heath</b>	Welfare Centre 65 Whitefield Road	Mondays 2 p.m.
<b>Weston Point</b>	Conservative Hall	First and Third Thursdays of month at 2 p.m.



In addition to Infant Welfare Clinics, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Dental and Minor Ailments Clinics are held at the Frodsham, Runcorn and Stockton Heath centres during the month, and at Runcorn, Ante- and Post-Natal Clinics are also held each Thursday at 10 a.m. A Toddlers Clinic on the second Thursday of the month, and Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy Clinics are held during the month. A Speech Therapy Clinic is now held each Thursday at the Stockton Heath Welfare Centre.

The Committee inspected the Welfare Centres at Runcorn, Frodsham and Stockton Heath, and the Day Nursery, Runcorn, on the annual inspection of County owned and rented properties, and attention was given to alterations, repairs and replacements required.

### Day Nursery

There is one Day Nursery in the Division, situated in Okell Street, Runcorn.

During the year, the average daily attendance at the Nursery was 28, a decrease of two on the previous year.

Attendances at the various clinics held at the Welfare Centres and for the Day Nursery are given in the following tables:—

A. Mothers' Clinics				New Cases	Total Attendances
Ante-Natal	...	...	...	156	620
Post-Natal	...	...	...	2	3
Dental:—					
Pre-Natal	...	...	...	18	38
Nursing Mothers	...	...	...	60	217
Dentures supplied	...	...	...		58

Young Children's Clinics				New Cases	Total Attendances
(i) Infant Welfare:					
To 1 year	...	...	...	733	7,517
1 to 2 years	...	...	...	—	1,215
2 to 5 years	...	...	...	—	1,126
(ii) Specialist:					
Ophthalmic (under 5)	...	...	...	21	61
Dental Treatment (under 5)	...	...	...	80	100

## B. (i) Welfare Centres

	<i>New Cases</i> 0-1	<i>Total Attendances</i>		
		0-1	1-2	2-5
Frodsham .. ..	83	718	114	207
Grappenhall .. ..	147	1,697	187	91
Helsby .. ..	64	936	206	225
Kingsley .. ..	23	232	31	63
Runcorn .. ..	231	2,368	439	449
Stockton Heath .. ..	143	1,248	149	44
Weston Point .. ..	42	318	89	47
<b>TOTALS</b> .. ..	<b>733</b>	<b>7,517</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>1,126</b>

<b>B. (ii) Ophthalmic Clinics</b>					<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>
Frodsham	...	...	...	...	5	8
Runcorn	...	...	...	...	7	26
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	...	9	27
<b>Totals</b>	...	...	...	...	<b>21</b>	<b>61</b>

## (iii) Day Nursery, Runcorn

				<i>Average No. Attending</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>
Aged 0—2 years	...	...	...	8	1943
2—5 years	...	...	..	20	4970

**Sale of Branded Welfare Foods**—The Sale of proprietary brands of Welfare Foods at Kingsley, Runcorn and Weston Point is carried out through my office. During the year, the total sales amounted to £1,095. 9s. 10d., an increase of £38 over the previous year.

At Frodsham, Helsby, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath Clinics, the sale of Welfare Foods is carried out by Voluntary Societies.

**Distribution of Welfare Foods—M.O.F.**—During the year no new distribution points were opened in the Division.

The following are details of the distribution points and commodities sold during the year:—

Centre	Commodities				
	N.D. Milk	Half Cream	Cod Liver Oil	A. & D. Capsules	Orange Juice
Runcorn ..	6,903	241	1,045	1,008	10,308
Alvanley ..	236	—	28	16	290
Appleton ..	543	—	40	12	296
Frodsham ..	2,139	61	466	347	3,866
Grappenhall ..	1,333	1	294	179	2,855
Halton ..	240	—	76	14	436
Helsby ..	683	8	179	174	1,945
Kingsley ..	116	4	74	44	358
Manley ..	309	—	25	31	234
Moore ..	261	—	20	16	271
Norley ..	244	—	23	12	171
Preston Brook ..	296	—	56	24	253
Stockton Heath	1,086	—	211	369	2,336
Sutton Weaver ..	452	—	47	18	261
Thelwall ..	32	—	7	14	77
Weston ..	230	—	19	24	439
Weston Point ..	1,028	—	140	111	1,584
Whitley ..	102	—	11	8	128
TOTAL ISSUES ..	16,233	315	2,761	2,421	26,108
Issues to Institutions ..	5	—	54	—	30
TOTALS FOR DIVISION ..	16,238	315	2,815	2,421	26,138

## SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY

Under this Section the Committee are responsible for:—

- (i) Provision, where necessary, of accommodation for midwives and the maintenance, repair and alterations required for such premises.
- (ii) Provision of transport for midwives where necessary in cases of emergency.

Apart from the Midwife residing in No. 10 Cedar Avenue, Stockton Heath, all other County Midwives in the Division reside in their own homes.

During the year the Committee inspected the County rented midwife's property, and repairs requiring attention were dealt with.

Transport and medical requisites were provided as and when required.



## **SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING**

The Committee are also responsible for the housing accommodation of Health Visitors. During the year the Flats at No. 10 Stanley Villas, Runcorn, were occupied by two of the Runcorn Health Visitors. All other Health Visitors in the Division reside in their own homes.

## **SECTION 25—HOME NURSING**

With the exception of the three district nurses in Runcorn and one district nurse/midwife at Budworth and Helsby, who reside in their own homes, the remainder now reside in County owned or rented property.

The Committee inspected all County owned and rented properties in the Division, and action was taken regarding any alterations, repairs or renewals requiring attention.

## **SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION**

Every effort was made during the year to bring to the notice of parents the need to have their children vaccinated and immunised, and it is pleasing to note that there has been an increase in both the numbers of children vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough.

Arrangements are being made for diphtheria immunisation clinics to be held at schools throughout the Division early in the new year.

The figures set out in the following tables, compiled from record cards received from medical practitioners, show the number of vaccinations and immunisations carried out during the year. For comparison purposes the figures for the previous year are also given:—

**VACCINATION—**

		<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Doctor's Surgery</i>	<i>Patient's Homes</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	1959	93	648	14	755
	1958	128	512	38	678
Re-vaccination	1959	2	90	—	92
	1958	1	117	5	123

**IMMUNISATION—PRIMARY.**

		<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Doctor's Surgery</i>	<i>Patient's Home</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria	1959	—	—	—	—
	1958	9	9	26	44
Combined Whooping Cough/ Diphtheria	1959	168	864	61	1,093
	1958	207	602	54	863

**IMMUNISATION—REINFORCING INJECTIONS.**

Diphtheria	1959	—	—	—	—
	1958	20	45	24	89
Combined Whooping Cough/ Diphtheria	1959	35	183	33	251
	1958	24	131	2	157

**VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS**

Since the commencement of the scheme, 14,519 persons have been vaccinated against Poliomyelitis, and during the year 9,866 were given their third injection.

The response from parents for vaccination of children under 15 years was exceptionally good, and approximately 90% of the children in this group have now been vaccinated.

Evening clinics were held at Frodsham, Runcorn and Stockton Heath which were fairly well attended. Mobile clinics were arranged for the rural areas, but so few attended that they were discontinued.



Arrangements were made with the Managements of the British Insulated Callenders' Cables at Helsby, the I.C.I. works in Runcorn, and M.A.N.W.E.B. at Frodsham, for sessions to be held at these works and offices. The response was quite good.

The response from the 16-25 years age group was most disappointing, 2,439 people being vaccinated, which is estimated to be about 30% of this group.

## SECTION 27—AMBULANCE AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

There were no changes in the vehicle or personnel establishments during the year, but clinic ambulance TMA 444 was replaced by Bedford 116 JMA.

One driver received a 4th bar to 5 years' safe driving medal, two drivers 1st bar to 5 years' safe driving medals, and 10 drivers one year safe driving diplomas for the National Safe Driving Competition. Twelve drivers passed their first aid examinations during the year.

The Committee inspected the Ambulance Station during the year, and recommended certain small alterations and repairs.

### Details of Journeys carried out Direct by Ambulance Station

	<i>Bedford Ambulances</i>			<i>Bedford Clinics</i>				<i>Totals for Station</i>
	<i>PTU 296</i>	<i>835 BMB</i>	<i>XMB 268</i>	<i>TLG 538</i>	<i>TMA 444</i>	<i>XMB 258</i>	<i>116 JMA</i>	
Emergencies	45	329	129	21	31	35	1	591
Maternity	19	148	46	5	3	4	1	226
Accidents	7	112	48	9	6	6	—	188
Ord. Removals	189	335	295	12	20	32	—	883
Sitting Cases	1296	920	1039	2078	2037	2354	78	9802
Infectious Diseases	3	1	—	1	5	4	—	14
Total Patients	1559	1845	1557	2126	2102	2435	80	11704
Total Journeys	517	906	561	686	740	621	23	4054
Service Journeys	7	3	7	49	30	61	1	158
Mileage	16429	23651	16013	28176	25591	25735	595	136190
Service Mileage	55	28	98	388	241	480	15	1305
Petrol: Galls.	1101	1665½	1314½	1200½	1167½	1146	39½	7634½
Oil: Service	63	158	173	215	147	316	—	1072
Average M.P.G.	14.9	14.2	12.2	23.8	22.1	22.8	15.5	18.0



## Details of Journeys Carried Out by Contractors

			<i>Total No Journeys</i>	<i>No. of Patients</i>	<i>No. of Accident and Emergency Journeys</i>	<i>Total Mileage</i>
Ambulances	...	...	63	63	63	905
Cars	...	...	736	949	—	20,052

Details of all journeys made during the year as compared with the previous twelve months are as follows:—

	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Emergencies</i>	<i>Mileage</i>
<i>Ambulance Journeys</i>				
1959	2,064	5,024	946	57,179
1958	2,192	5,271	951	61,283
<i>Sitting Case Journeys</i>				
1959	2,947	7,692	122	101,273
1958	2,204	6,056	102	82,159
<i>Total all Journeys</i>				
1959	5,011	12,716	1,068	158,452
1958	4,396	11,327	1,053	143,442
Increase	615	1,389	15	15,010
Decrease	—	—	—	—

The majority of patients in the Division requiring transport attend hospitals in Chester, Liverpool and Warrington, and the average mileage per journey for the year was 31.6 compared with 32.6 for the previous year.

The arrangements between the County Council and the Warrington Corporation whereby the latter supplied ambulances for the conveyance of non-infectious cases from Stockton Heath and the surrounding district, were continued during the year.

## SECTION 28

### PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

#### Tuberculosis

The Health Visitors were informed of all new cases and asked to visit and complete the environmental report sheet, and where the patients had not attended the Chest Clinic for examination, they were advised to do so. Every effort was made to persuade the contacts to attend for examination.

On receipt of the completed report sheets, these were checked to ascertain what help was required.

During the year No. 3 Mass Radiography Unit visited Stockton Heath and Grappenhall. This was the first time the Unit had visited this area, and the attendances were very good. The Unit also attended at Runcorn during the year.

Details of cases during the period 1st January to 31st December 1959 are as follows:—

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
(a) Total number of cases on register—					
1st January, 1959 ..	178	136	20	26	360
31st December, 1959 ..	183	135	19	26	363
(b) Removals from register, 1st January to 31st December, 1959—					
Died .. .. .	7	1	—	—	8
Left district .. .. .	—	6	—	—	6
Recovered .. .. .	6	3	1	—	10
Lost sight of .. .. .	—	1	—	—	1
	13	11	1	—	25
(c) Number of notifications received, 1st January to 31st December, 1959— ..					
New cases .. .. .	11	6	—	—	17
Transfers .. .. .	6	4	—	—	10
Restored to register ..	1	—	—	—	1
	18	10	—	—	28

### **B.C.G. Vaccination**

During the year parents of children in the 13 years age group attending schools in the Division were given the opportunity of having them given B.C.G. Vaccination, and I am pleased to report that there was a very good response, approximately 80% agreeing to the vaccination of their children.

The following schools were visited during the period under review:

Balfour Road Secondary Modern School, Runcorn.  
Runcorn The Grange Secondary Modern School.  
St. Edward's R.C. School, Runcorn.



Helsby County Grammar Schools (Boys and Girls)  
Helsby Secondary Modern School  
Frodsham Secondary Modern School  
Kingsley Secondary Modern School  
Stockton Heath Secondary Modern School  
Stockton Lodge Private School, Stockton Heath  
Marlfield Private School, Grappenhall  
Grappenhall Hall Special School, Grappenhall  
Belmont Hall College, Gt. Budworth.

Details of the number of forms issued, tests carried out and B.C.G. given during the year are as follows:—

### Before Vaccination

No. of consent forms issued	...	...	...	...	725
No. of children for whom consent received	...	...	...	...	588
No. Mantoux tested	...	...	...	...	570
No. positive to Mantoux test	...	...	...	...	120
No. vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	...	...	425

### After B.C.G. Vaccination

No. having follow-up Cantoux (8 weeks)	...	...	425
No. positive to follow-up Mantoux (8 weeks)	...	...	394
No. positive to follow-up Mantoux (12 months)	...	...	356
No. negative to follow-up Mantoux (12 months)	...	...	10

Following the Adrian report on X-ray hazards, the practice of sending children under 15 to the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit was discontinued. Now, instead of X-raying all Mantoux positive children, only those children with a strong positive Mantoux are X-rayed. These are done at the Chest Clinic by arrangements with Dr. Hughes. The parents of these children are also notified to attend for X-ray in an endeavour to find possible contacts. One infectious case of tuberculosis was found during the year. A careful check of all the other children and staff in the school did not reveal any further cases.

### Care of the Aged

During the year the County Council introduced the Chiropody Service, including certain categories of elderly people. This service should prove invaluable in keeping the old people mobile, and it is to be hoped that those eligible will use this service to the full.

The "Meals on Wheels" service proved very useful to the elderly who are housebound.



## **Loan of Nursing Equipment**

Supplies of nursing equipment, apparatus, etc., are available for loan to patients from stocks supplied to district nurses in accordance with the scale agreed to by the Cheshire County Council and my Committee. A reserve stock is also kept at my Divisional Office.

A patient borrowing equipment under the above heading is required to pay a deposit, which is refunded when the article is returned in good condition.

There has been an increased demand for this equipment during the year, and this service is much appreciated by those concerned.

## **Convalescent Home Treatment**

The Committee has power to send persons in need of rest but not nursing care to convalescent homes. Three applications were received for such treatment during the year, and arrangements were made for two weeks' convalescent home treatment for each patient.

The patients are required to pay towards the cost of their stay in these homes, according to the scale laid down by the County Council.

## **Handicapped Persons**

A register of Handicapped Persons is kept in my office, and the patients are visited by the health visitors to ascertain what assistance can be given to these persons, working in conjunction with the various voluntary societies, etc.

## **Health Education**

Health Education is a very important part of the Health Department's work, albeit a difficult one, and one whose degree of success is impossible to assess. Posters are displayed throughout the Division, and pamphlets are distributed at the Welfare Centres.

An encouraging aspect of this work is the good attendances at the ante-natal classes at Stockton Heath. These young mothers are given talks on various aspects of health, and their interest and enthusiasm is very refreshing. It is to be hoped that such classes will continue to grow in Runcorn and Frodsham, since this is undoubtedly a successful way of getting Health Education across to people.

The individual contact of Health Visitors in the course of their daily rounds remains the largest single factor in this work.

## SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The number of domestic helps employed at 31st December 1959 was 49.

The number of cases provided with domestic help during the year increased from 158 to 168, an increase of 10. The total number of hours domestic helps were supplied to cases during the year was 37,780, compared with 34,000 in 1958, an increase of 3,780 hours.

The increase in the number of cases and in the hours help was supplied, was due mainly to the aged persons group.

During the year the supply of domestic help in the Stockton Heath and Grappenhall areas greatly improved by the employment of local people, which resulted in a reduction in the amount paid out in travelling expenses.

The following table shows the types of case supplied with help during 1958 and 1959:—

	<i>Confinement Cases</i>	<i>Tuberculosis Cases</i>	<i>Aged Persons</i>	<i>Case of other Illness</i>
1959	22	2	128	16
1958	19	2	118	19

At 31st December 1959 there were 112 protracted cases remaining on the register, an increase of 7 on the 1958 total.

During the year the Committee considered all cases supplied with the services of a domestic help.







